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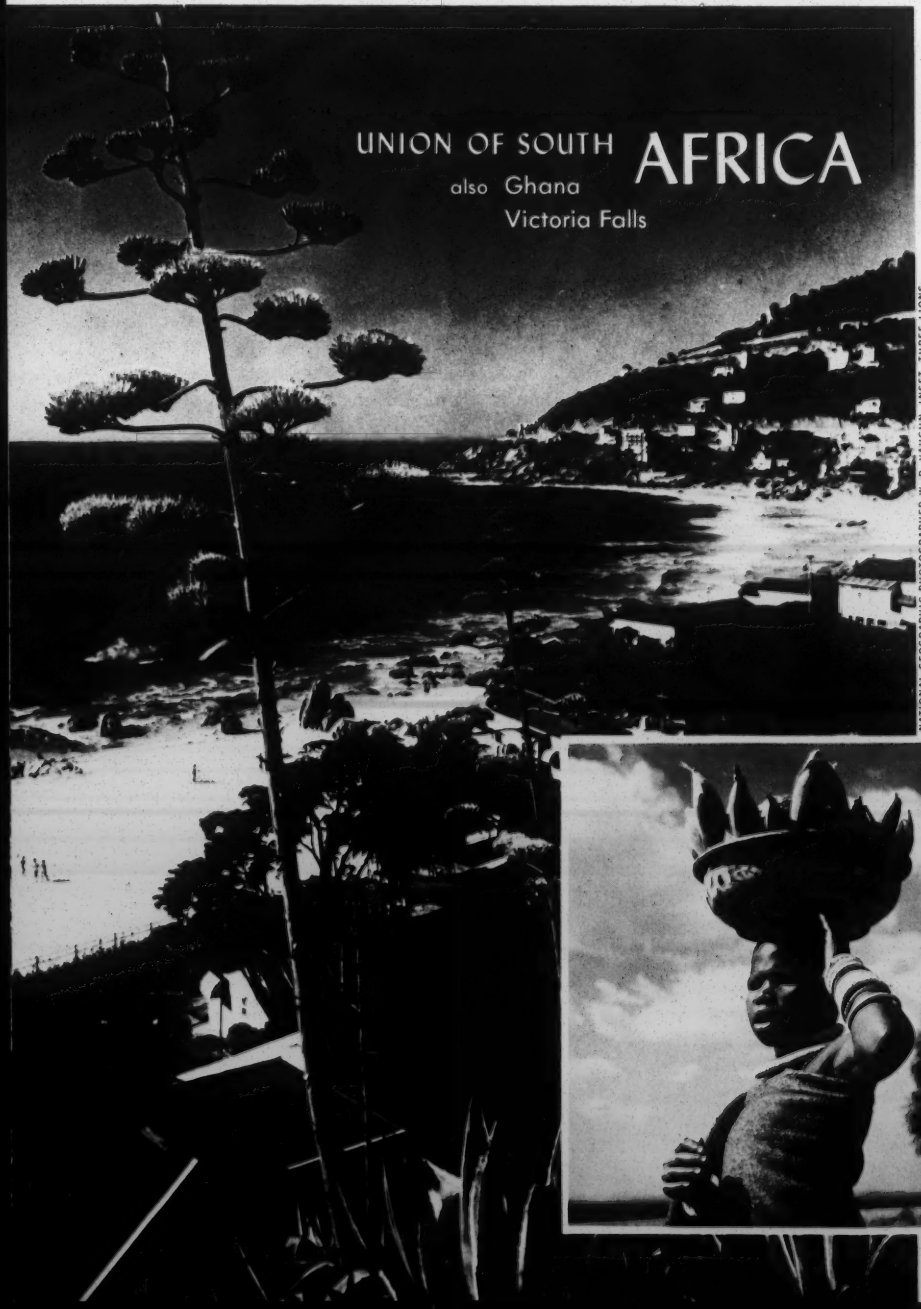

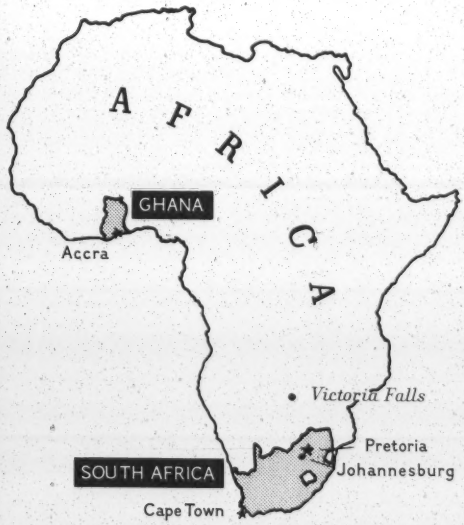

Out of Riebeeck's colony grew the Union of South Africa, a land of 472,359 square miles, more than four times the size of the Netherlands and United Kingdom combined.

The early colonists grew fine gardens from which they fed sailors weary and undernourished by the six-month trip from Europe. Cape Town lies on a strip of fertile soil where mountain streams water the coastal plain. Orange groves, vineyards, apple, pear, and plum orchards thrive there today.

Across the country, on the east coast, a small, rain-soaked, sun-soaked lowland offers the produce of the tropics: bananas, pineapples, sugar cane, papayas.

The rest of the coast rises in a staircase of mountain ranges that culminate in the veld (pronounced "felt"), 2,000 to 6,000 feet above sea level. Dutch for field, the veld is a plateau of high grass and little rain that continues beyond the South African border almost to the tropics. Here fat sheep and cattle graze. The African boy below tends a herd at Mara. Fields of wheat, oats, barley, rye, and corn flourish. An average farm covers 1,000 acres; a big one may blanket 50,000. Farmhouses stand miles apart, wearing names like "Lonely Hill" or "Silence."

Although the founders never intended it, the little Dutch settlement at Cape Town soon spread inland, pushing before it primitive Africans who had lived along the coast. Some tribes fled to mountain caves. Others the Europeans pressed into

VIC JORGENSON, THREE LIONS

UMI

T. J. MCNALLY

SOUTH AFRICA... The Divided Union

NEAR THE SOUTHERN TIP of Africa sprawls the modern city of Cape Town, three-century-old birthplace of a nation.

Behind this storybook scene seethe the racial tensions of the Union of South Africa, ready to explode at any minute.

While mid-Africa becomes a patchwork of black republics, South Africa strengthens its doctrine of white supremacy. The recent referendum which may cut South Africa adrift from the British Commonwealth of Nations blocks another avenue of possible moderation.

Unlike the African lands now achieving freedom, in which 98 percent or more of the population is black, South Africa has a large white European segment. The Dutch and many British who have settled here regard this land of gold, diamonds, cattle, and breath-taking beauty as their own by right of conquest, settlement, and development. They play with clear consciences on the beach at suburban Clifton (cover).

To understand both sides, a study of history, terrain, migrations, mineral discoveries, social alignments, and political growth is necessary. No other country has inherited quite the snarl of interweaving problems that ties the white government of South Africa to its present course.

To begin with, in Cape Town, only the Dutch homes gabled in the style of the 17th century remind of the distant past. The city began as a refreshment station for ships plying between Holland and the Dutch East Indies. In 1652 the Dutch East India Company sent naval surgeon Johan van Riebeeck to the Cape of Good Hope with three ships. He built a fort and planted vegetables.

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earthed in the Transvaal. Over these areas, Britain and the Dutch fought the Boer Wars which Britain finally won in 1902. The little republics the Boers (Dutch for farmers) had founded came under British rule. Later they united with Natal and Cape Province as the Union of South Africa, a member of the British Commonwealth. Today Afrikaans and English are official languages.

The old antagonisms have never died. Englishman is still ranged against Boer; Boer against Bantu, Cape Colored (mixed blood), and the Asians who came to work the sugar plantations in Natal. Population figures place whites in a minority: 2,600,000 Europeans to 8,500,000 Bantu, 1,000,000 Colored, and 400,000 Asians.

Large reserves provide acreage for Bantu tribes. Others work the farms of Europeans. The boy on the cover, on the road to Johannesburg, hawks home-grown corn and kaffir melons. Many Bantu have gone to the cities to work in factories and mines. Shafts take miners underground to working faces where cars are filled with diamond-bearing rock (above). Johannesburg (below) shows mountains of gold tailings in the background. Other minerals have been uncovered.

Working together, South Africans have the prospect of developing one of earth's fairest lands. Working apart, they may repeat the history of Eden. L.B.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC PHOTOGRAPHER W. D. VAUGHN. ABOVE, N. W. AYER AND SON

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VIC JORGENSON, THREE LIONS. LEFT, LOWRY AERIAL PHOTO SERVICE

Sunday Matinee: Johannesburg gold miners give a glimpse of tribal life to city people and tourists nearly every Sunday. Intertribal dances, the African's equivalent of the Westerner's athletic contests, ease tensions and bring a touch of home to homesick workmen. The South African government tries to replace the crowded slums where many of these miners live. Below, some new homes at Vlakfontein, a few miles outside of Pretoria.

NEXT ISSUE: Jan. 2, 1961

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

slavery. While the Dutch moved up from the south, Bantu tribes flowed in from the north seeking pasture for their cattle.

As the Dutch ventured farther and farther inland, they grew away from their homeland. They needed new words to describe their new life. Their language changed. Afrikaans, they call it. Themselves they call Afrikaners: people of Africa.

In the 1770's, these pioneers met head-on African tribes who had immigrated from the north. Both groups were cattlemen, both needed grazing for survival. The bitter struggle that followed helped spawn today's doctrine of apartheid—racial separateness.

In the early 19th century, the British stepped into this fight. To forestall the French, who had overrun Holland, Englishmen took South Africa. They brought ideas of democracy and racial equality. They freed the slaves.

Resenting both British ideas and British colonists taking over a land Dutchmen had built, thousands of Hollanders set out in 1836 to find new freedom and new land. Their "Great Trek" took them north to found republics where they might have lived in peace. But in 1866 one of them discovered diamonds in the Orange Free State, and 20 years later a gold field was un-

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC PHOTOGRAPHER W. D. VAUGHN

Victoria Falls

FROM 20 MILES away you hear the roar of millions of tons of water crashing on rock. From seven miles you see the great plume of water vapor rising from the canyon. When you arrive beside it, your emotion is awe. "Scenes so lovely must have been gazed upon by angels in their flight," wrote its discoverer.

This is *Mosi-oa-Tunya,* the "smoke that thunders," named on white man's maps Victoria Falls.

Here the Zambezi River, a mile wide, flows gently across a plateau, then suddenly falls off a cliff averaging 304 feet high. A series of gorges drop the river another 400 feet in the next 40 miles.

The first European to visit the falls, David Livingstone, discovered it in 1855. Although impressed with its beauty, Livingstone was not happy to see the falls—it effectively blocked what he had hoped would be a river highway opening central Africa for missionaries and traders.

Today the falls itself has helped open the area by attracting thousands of visitors from around the world.

The Zambezi is the border between Northern and Southern Rhodesia, and Victoria Falls has become a tourist asset to both. Like Niagara Falls, it is a favorite with honeymooners. Higher and wider than its American counterpart, Victoria Falls stretches 1,900 yards across (against Niagara's 1,646) and at its highest, has a drop of 355 feet (against Niagara's 167).

The falls' impact on visitors is indicated by the legend of the American tourist who took a long look, then rushed to cable home, "Sell Niagara!" F. S.

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KRYN TACONIS, MAGNUM

Changing times—Shopper carrying her baby in traditional fashion rides an Escalator at a new department store in Accra, Ghana's capital. Country women can carry infants for miles in this way.

for much recent social and economic development.

Season after season the trees bear their dividends. The beans are laid out to dry. The boys below turn the beans every day for three months to ready them for shipping.

To end its economic dependence on cocoa, Ghana seeks to develop its considerable mineral wealth. Gold, the original attraction for traders, still ranks third as an export behind cocoa and timber. Miners dig manganese and diamonds. One day, planners hope, the roaring Volta River, which drains two-thirds of the country, will be harnessed. Then plentiful electric power will smelt rich deposits of bauxite into ingots of aluminum.

To advance that time, Ghana stays within the British Commonwealth and welcomes capital and technical assistance from more developed countries.

A modern economy needs educated workers. The central government is spurring education. Illiteracy is dropping as 500,000 students now go to school. The University of Ghana has sprung up outside Accra to train more teachers and develop much-needed leaders and public servants.

As the first colonial people of all black Africa to achieve independence, Ghana knows it is being watched. How it manages the leap to nationhood and whether it leans East or West will influence the course of many other new African countries.

A.P.M.

UMI

PHOTOGRAPHS BY NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC PHOTOGRAPHER W. D. VAUGHN

GHANA Oldest of Africa's New Nations

BREAD PEDDLERS in Ghana tote their stock on their heads as they always have. But signs of change are apparent. Among the loaves are plastic covers, ready for use in case of rain. Behind the bustle of traditionally garbed onlookers, officials dedicate a modern building—a regional office built in the western town of Sunyani by Ghana's young central government.

The people of Ghana have seen many changes since the balmy day in 1957 when the former British colony of Gold Coast became an independent nation. In some ways the swift transition recalls the birth of another nation in 1776. Like the infant United States, Ghana inherits British parliamentary tradition. And, even more than the United States, an untried central government seeks to unify a divided people.

Ghanaians compare their first president, Kwame Nkrumah (left), to George Washington. Born in a mud hut and educated at Lincoln University in Pennsylvania, Dr. Nkrumah was the leader in the struggle for independence. He and his government are trying to make one people of a population that owes allegiance to more than a hundred tribes and speaks some 50 dialects.

After zestfully celebrating their new freedom, Ghana's leaders stopped to take stock. Theirs is a nation approximately the size of Oregon (see map, page 123) with three times Oregon's population.

Within its compact shape are five fairly well defined geographic areas. On northern plateaus, "cowboys" round up cattle and drive them the 400-mile length of the country to coastal markets. In two central zones, farmers raise yams, cassava, corn, peanuts, and rice.

But the lush forests of the south produce the country's most important product: cocoa. Ghana supplies 60 percent of the world's cocoa; cocoa products make up two-thirds of her exports. Taxes on cocoa production have paid

Names of the buses—all English imports—are restricted only by the imagination of the owner. "*Oh, People*" (above) bears the additional advice that "The Lord Helps the Lonely Person," in the dialect of the Akan tribe. Some buses are operated as fleets, but many are individually owned and carefully tended (left). Most mammy wagons are of similar design, a pick-up truck with a canopy added. But visitors note one difference. Buses that make regular runs to the north have bodies built higher from the ground—to discourage curious leopards.

A. P. M.

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'MAMMY WAGONS,' Ghana's Greyhounds

IF THIS BUS DRIVER seems proud, he has a right to be. In Ghana, where railroads and navigable rivers are few, buses like his carry the bulk of the nation's passenger and freight traffic. Early each morning they fan out over the country's 7,000 miles of improved roads from "lorry parks" like the central depot in Accra (bottom). Jovial farm "mammies" pile in, baskets bulging with plantains, corn, yams, and dried fish, chickens tucked under their arms. A day at the market empties the baskets, refills the mammy wagon with gay cotton cloth from English mills, kerosene, and tools. Sleepy passengers will soon be rejuvenated by the carefree ride home.

ALL PHOTOGRAPHS BY KRYN TACONIS, MAGNUM

KRYN TACONIS, MAGNUM

SUDSY BATH is given a youngster in a Ghana village. In rural areas, Ghanaians often live in "extended families," many in-laws living easily together in a tight cluster of dwellings. Happy children have the run of every house, and many "fathers" and "mothers" contribute to their upbringing.

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